

News Review

Volume 61, Number 9

15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

Thursday, January 22, 1998

Thornton Highlights Six-year Plan to Revamp County Schools

by James Giese

"We need to invest in the school system now, before it is too late." This was one of many admonishments made to citizens attending the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Democratic Club meeting by the "architect of the six-year plan" and chair of the Prince George's County Board of Education, Dr. Alvin Thornton. He is seeking greater funding for county schools.

Thornton wants \$30 million more in operating funds for the school system and \$35 million for school construction this year and \$500 million dollars overall for the next six years.

"I don't have anything to do with children raised in trailers [taught in temporary classrooms]—I have nothing to do with that," he said. "The school board doesn't raise a dime for schools," he told the group, emphasizing the fact that the school board has no taxing authority and must rely on funds raised by the county and the state.

The six-year plan is the Board of Education's proposal to resolve the lawsuit that mandates busing of children in order to achieve better racial balance in schools and end segregation. Their plan relies upon putting substantially greater funds into

the school system over a six-year period in order to build more schools and improve the ratio of teachers to pupils.

Thornton noted that Federal Circuit Court Judge Peter Messitte, the judge adjudicating the school desegregation suit, wants the opposing parties to re-

"We need to invest in the school system now, before it is too late."
- Alvin Thornton,
Chair Board of Education

solve the issue, rather than for the judge to have to make a ruling. The NAACP, which brought the original litigation before the courts, and the school board are close together in agreeing on a plan to end school busing. But they have not, as yet, reached a mutual understanding.

The third party, Prince George's County, has agreed to provide greater funding but has taken the position that segregation is no longer a problem for the courts to be involved with in a county that now has a majority African-American population. While County Executive Wayne Curry and the county council are

committed to spending more on education, they are not committed to the six-year plan and are hampered by TRIM, the tax rate limitation, in the amount of funds they can raise. Governor Parris Glendening also supports more funding for education but is not committed to the six-year plan. The Maryland legislature, which has only just begun its legislative session, has not yet taken a position on providing added school funds.

Six-year Plan

Thornton called his six-year plan an academic achievement-community development plan. He has been busy talking to legislators. "We are asking for 500 million dollars." He emphasized that the end of forced busing is a minor part of the plan and criticized the press for playing up this aspect. "Only 20 percent has anything to do with desegregation." He noted that the county had 126,000 students and only 11,400 are forced to be bused from one neighborhood to another for the purpose of racial balance.

The end of massive involuntary busing occurred with the development of magnet schools and Milliken schools, he said. He supports continuation of these

See SCHOOLS, page 9

Council Considers Parking Options at Green Ridge

by Diane Oberg

Council sent the city staff back to the drawing board to look at more options for providing additional parking for residents of Green Ridge House. The city recently implemented a permit system to ensure that only residents are using the lot. To date, 48 permits have been issued for the 39 spaces, supporting complaints of residents that parking is inadequate. Under the permit system, Green Ridge House employees and contractors cannot park in the lot.

Director of Planning Celia Craze presented two options: a new 26-space lot behind the building and a 16-space lot in front of the building. Both staff and residents prefer the rear lot option, as the front lot would destroy the facility's front lawn and eliminate two parking spaces on Ridge Road. Construction of the back lot, however, would require an easement from Greenbelt Homes Inc. (GHI) for the access road near 20 Court Ridge. It would also involve destruction of several large trees.

Craze noted that there is a trend for new residents to bring cars with them and that the rear lot option would provide for future growth. At earlier discussions, council had suggested a system of valet parking, where cars could be parked off-site;

Craze reported, however, that the residents felt this plan was not adequate for their needs.

Mayor Judith Davis noted that the permit system has forced all visitors and employees to park on Ridge Road, making parking difficult for nearby residents. Councilmember Rodney Roberts noted a lot in the rear would destroy much of the facility's back lawn. He asked whether replacing the proposed two-way access road with a one-way road that would loop around the building would eliminate the need to encroach on GHI property.

Craze said she had not examined this option but her "gut reaction" was that encroachment would still be necessary, given the grade drop-off next to the building and county code requirements that mandate 18 feet for a one-way drive, just slightly less than the 22 feet required for a two-way drive. While it may be possible to get a waiver, a narrow roadway may limit access by emergency vehicles, she noted. By her rough calculations, she said, it appeared that even the one-way street would require tree removal.

Roberts suggested an underground garage, saying that the city has "one chance to do this right."

See COUNCIL, page 5

Greenbelt Citylink Puts City on Web

Greenbelt is on the Web! The city's new website, Greenbelt Citylink, was designed with both citizens and visitors in mind and provides a wealth of information about the city. The website was unveiled to the City Council at its regular meeting on January 12.

Greenbelt Citylink is divided into two main sections. The first, called Citizen Connection, is a comprehensive guide to city services. Broken down by council function and city departments, this section provides information on everything from trash collection schedules and GED classes to recreation programs. Citizens can print out forms to sign up for summer camps or apply to serve on one of Greenbelt's citizen boards or committees. Residents can find out more about the Greenbelt Police Department's Citizen Academy or read about the family counseling services provided by Greenbelt CARES. Citizen Connection also contains an up-to-date agenda for the next City Council meeting, a list of future council meetings, and will soon offer a collection of minutes from previous City Council meetings.

The second section of Greenbelt Citylink is called @ Greenbelt. This information is geared toward visitors who want to know more about the city.

See CITYLINK, page 12



Outer heavy line delineates study area. Metro/WMATA/Smith property outlined within is focus area.

Focus Group Study Completed On Metro Area Development

by Elaine Skolnik

After nine months of hard work, the Greenbelt Metro Area Study Focus Group met on January 15 to review the group's Interim Report. On Thursday, January 29, the finalized report will be presented to the Prince George's Planning Board for permission to release it to the public.

The board will meet in the County Administration Building in Upper Marlboro. Starting at 8:30 a.m., the presentation will be made by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) team of planners who led the study focus group.

The next phase in the year-long preplanning process for the area adjacent to and immediately surrounding the Greenbelt Metrorail station will be a public forum in the spring. The goal is to seek public participation and comments about the report's findings and recommendations.

MNCPPC planner Joe Chang, team leader of the study focus group, said that citizen comments will then be included in the final report and later presented to the Planning Board and County Council for endorsement. If approval is granted, it will signal the initiation of the Sector Plan/Sectional Map Amendment (SMA), the planning tool that the report recommends to achieve development in the "Focus" area composed of the Greenbelt Metro Station and the A.H. Smith properties. (See map.)

Of the six planning tools compared in the report, the Sector/SMA was rated "very effective" in most categories. This process covers "a small concentrated area of a Master Plan,

such as an area near a transit station." According to MNCPPC staff, the formulation of a sector plan can be processed within "13 months" following county council endorsement because "of the considerable work already completed" by the Greenbelt Metro Focus Study Group. In addition to MNCPPC staff, the study group included representatives of various civic/homeowners' associations and property owners from Greenbelt, Berwyn Heights and College Park, as well as elected officials including those from Greenbelt and from the city's Planning and Development Department.

Chang noted that Greenbelt's Community Planner Terri Hruby participated in almost all of the 88 team-staff meetings since January 1997. He observed that Councilman Thomas X. White and Roy Dahl of Greenwood Village were also major contributors, raising important issues and concerns. Chang praised the in-depth, excellent work of study-focus group members who regularly attended meetings.

See STUDY, page 5

What Goes On

- Mon., Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m. Senior Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting, Community Center
- 8 p.m. City Council meeting, Municipal Building
- Tues., Jan. 27, 7 p.m. A.C.E. Meeting with Municipal Education Advisory Groups, Municipal Building
- Wed., Jan 28, 8 p.m. City Council Worksession with State's Attorney Jack Johnson, Community Center

Man Against Beast

At first, we felt good about the return of wildlife to Greenbelt in the form of beavers and deer. Man was not wiping out nature, after all, it was managing to survive. Upon closer look, however, the picture darkened.

A major reason for the return of these animals was not that nature was surviving in spite of man but, instead, that man was wiping out nature's better habitats in the country by building one subdivision after another. From the air, the countryside around the Washington-Baltimore area has become pockmarked with housing subdivisions. Our rural roads are now clogged with commuter cars.

We also learned that the animals caused problems for humans. The deer help to transmit lyme disease. They also cause serious damage to experimental crops of our good neighbor, the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. The beavers destroy trees in our parks.

We like trees and we like animals. Our feelings are not so strong, however, that we will support their existence under any circumstance. Still, we hope that solutions can be found that permit man and nature to co-exist.

To that extent we support the actions of the city council and city staff in bringing in a biologist as a consultant on the beavers, while, at the same time, taking action to protect many trees along the lake shore by wrapping wire fencing around them. We look forward to learning more from the city's consultant, and hope that permanent solutions can be found to enable Greenbelt residents to live in peace and harmony with the beavers, the deer and other forms of wildlife.

Greenbelt Updates Community Map

The City of Greenbelt has given the Community Map Company approval to update the Community Information Guide originally done in 1995. The updated map and guide is produced at no cost to local taxpayers and is designed to familiarize both residents and businesses with the benefits and assets of the community.

This comprehensive information guide will include information on the history, government activities and services available in the community. The detailed street map will also highlight and identify key points of interest in the community.

The City of Greenbelt will distribute one guide to each residence and business within the city. A supply will be kept at the city offices to distribute to new residents and prospective businesses over the next two years.

The project offers an opportunity to advertise one's business or service to the local community. Businesses and organizations that do participate in the program will be identified and located on the map. A representative of Community Map Company will be contacting area businesses and leaders in the near future to further describe the program.

Auditions Are Open For UM Gospel Choir

People who have a passion for singing gospel, spirituals and sacred or secular music have a chance to audition for the Maryland Gospel Choir at the University of Maryland School of Music. Director DeWayne Gregory will hold open auditions on January 29 and February 5 at 7 p.m. in Room 2102 of the Tawes Fine Arts Building.

Anyone interested can call 301-931-9115 and leave a name, phone number and voice style. Applicants should prepare two songs, one a hymn, to sing for the audition.

What's Next?

Leonie Penney states in her January 15 letter to the editor that "extermination" of the beaver at Buddy Attick Park "is the most desired option" and feels that her opinion "fits the great majority of residents." Maybe I hold the minority view, but I don't believe that most Greenbelters share her view, that beavers are comparable to termites, that need to be exterminated.

As Ms. Penney, I can also say that "I like trees very much." But I feel much more threatened by the ripping down of our woodlands by developers than the gnawing down of a few trees by a beaver.

What a sterile environment the Park would be if we started destroying wildlife considered to be an annoyance by some residents. What's going to be next on the pesky hit list? I'm sure we can find a solution that's less extreme than extermination.

Yoni Siegel

City Notes

Holiday decorations around the city office building were removed, and chipping of discarded Christmas trees was begun. Two dead trees on Research and Crescent Roads were removed. Sidewalk joints in Greenbelt East were repaired to prevent tripping. A truckload of sand was purchased and mixed with calcium chloride for ice control. Two new benches were installed at the Roosevelt Center game tables.



The ubiquitous beaver. For more than 10 years, beavers have been plying their trade in Greenbelt Lake despite many attempts by animal experts to dislodge them. They have been felling trees pe-

riodically since their photographer used his kayak to paddle out to the middle of the lake and capture this photo in July 1987.

- photo by Bill Cornett

Letters to the Editor

Another View

This is in response to Leonie Penney's letter printed in the Jan. 15 News Review. I too love trees very much. I am an active member in the Nature Conservancy's Adopt-An-Acre program. I try to vote on the "green" side of all issues. However, trees are not the only components necessary for a healthy ecosystem. I don't know the best answer to the beaver "problem." Perhaps the first thing to recognize is that, for the beavers, things don't start to be a "problem" until humans start to interfere. It seems to me that an extreme option such as extermination should only be considered as a last resort and only when the particular problem represents a clear public health risk. Only human arrogance permits one to quickly advocate extermination.

In her letter, Ms. Penney claims the following.

1. "[She] like[s] trees very much." She cites the fact that when houses were built here over 40 years ago, homeowners "tied a ribbon around each single tree they wanted saved." What about the ones they didn't want saved? And what about the trees cut down to make room for those houses? I guess it's all right for humans to cut trees for their habitat — why not extend that right to the beavers? Their existence in these parts certainly predates man's!

2. "When I have pests in my house, I turn to a professional exterminator to have them disposed of." Well, when the beaver moves into your house, you will have a much better case for extermination.

3. "In my book, every meat-eater who whines about beavers is a hypocrite." By this same logic one might say that anyone who reads newspapers or books,

uses toilet paper, or writes letters to the News Review on paper but claims to "like trees very much" is also a hypocrite. Those who live in wood houses should not cast stones at beavers.

And finally, Ms. Penney's assertion that her "beaver profile" fit the great majority of residents" is both arrogant and probably untrue. Please leave it to the politicians to make blanket statements like "we know what the American people want." Ms. Penney certainly does not speak for this tree lover.

Randy Schechter

Not Broadway

My husband and I recently went to see the GAC performance of "A Man For All Seasons." The next day I was astounded to read the review of the play by Ms. Zanin in the News Review. Based on the severe critique of the play, I had to ask myself, "Had we just seen a Broadway production or a community theatre production?"

In a society where the performing arts are under-supported, I'd like to commend the "fidgety director" and the "uneven play-

ers" on a job well done. Ms. Zanin's other harsh comments about the "uninspired costuming" and the "lackluster set" would be more readily accepted if this was a Broadway company with wealthy supporters. But, alas, it is not. This production which, according to the review, lacked "passion" was made a success because of the love of the Arts by those who were involved.

I agree that a critique is necessary and that it enables those who have not yet seen the production to understand more of the play, but this critique could have been more forgiving of the aspects that were less than brilliant. Did this review encourage or discourage possible theatre goers from going to support their local community theatre?

Julia Briggs

New Deal Cafe

Open
Fri & Sat
7-11 pm



Music
8:30 pm
No cover

Friday 1/23 Open Mike

Saturday 1/24 Bridges to Bliss
(originals for all ages)

Friday 1/30 Randy Austin
(songs about drinkin', cheatin', & truckin')

Saturday 1/31 Steve Gellman
(heart driven originals)

Donations for Musicians Encouraged
Greenbelt Community Center
(301) 474-5642

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
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(301) 474-4131

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Diane Oberg, president; James Giese, vice president; Virginia Beauchamp, treasurer; Bernina McGee, secretary; and Barbara Likowski.

DEADLINES: Display Ads—10 p.m. Monday; Letters, articles and other ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center 15 Crescent Road during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$32/year.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., 8 - 10 p.m.; Tuesday 8-10 p.m.
Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.

Greenbelt Municipal Access TV Channel B-10 Schedule

Monday, January 26th at 8 p.m.
City Council Meeting "live"

Tuesday & Thursday, January 27 & 29

- 5:00 p.m.** "Open Door Meeting w/Senator Green and Delegates of 23rd District"
- 6:30 p.m.** "Citizens for Greenbelt METRO Development Issues"
- 8:00 p.m.** "City Council Meeting of January 26"

Schools Offer Magnet Fair

The Prince George's County Public Schools will hold a Magnet Fair at Eleanor Roosevelt High School on January 31 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Snow date will be February 14.) This is an opportunity for prospective students and parents to get information about 12 different magnet programs. The magnet application deadline for a general registration lottery is March 6.

Audition applications for the Visual and Performing Arts program at Suitland High School are currently available. The submission deadline is February 6.

For information, call the Magnet School office at 301-952-6044.

Hadassah Meeting

The next general membership meeting of the Judith Resnick Group of Hadassah will be on Tuesday, January 27, at 8 p.m. at the home of Jackie Aronfy. Please call Jackie at 301-345-2018.

The speaker for the evening will be Bart Goldstein, interior designer, on the subject of "Re-doing Your Old Home."

Hadassah is a not-for-profit organization involved in support of Hadassah hospitals and other Hadassah projects in Israel, as well as educational, social, and youth projects in Israel and the United States.

Explorations Unlimited

On Friday, January 30, Explorations Unlimited presents a talk about Historic Preservation. The presenter will be Howard S. Berger, who is an architectural historian and a preservation planner with the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC). Berger will discuss the Prince George's County Historic Preservation program and county, state and national historic district designation processes.

Since the late 1980s, Berger has documented a number of Prince George's County historic inner-beltway communities including the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century suburbs of Mount Rainier, Hyattsville, Riverdale, College Park and University Park. In addition to historic research, his responsibilities within the Historic Preservation Section include the review of Historic Area Work Permits and Preservation Tax Credit applications. He is currently undertaking a study of a group of houses in Accokeek, designed by architect Charles Wagner.

Over the last four years, Berger has worked with citizens' committees in Greenbelt to explore ways to recognize and protect the unique character of the community. As part of that work, he has recently completed draft Historic District Design Guidelines currently under review by GHI and the City of Greenbelt.

Explorations Unlimited is a speaker series held every Friday from 1 - 3 p.m., at the Community Center. This presentation will be held in the senior classroom. Everyone is welcome and questions are always encouraged. Please call 301-397-2208 for more information.

Community Events

Fitness Walk

Join a park ranger on a two mile fitness walk through Greenbelt Park. Meet at the Sweetgum picnic area at 10 a.m. on Saturday, January 31. For reservations call 301-344-3944.

At the Library

Sat., Jan. 24, 2 p.m. - singer-songwriter Patricia Shih fall concert.

Wed., Jan. 28, 7 p.m. - College Bound: Navigating the Financial Aid Maze. Caryne Forster, a veteran of college and career planning services, will explain how to get the money needed for a college education.

7 p.m. - P.J. Storytime. Ages 4 - 6.

Thurs., Jan. 29, 10:15 a.m. - Drop-in Storytime. Ages 3 - 5.

Library System Has New Web Site

The Prince George's Memorial Library System has introduced <http://www.prge.lib.md.us/> — the new web site of the library system. Funding for the equipment and software to create the home page and to access Internet graphics was partially funded by a grant from The Washington Post.

The library system provides free Internet and World Wide Web access to library customers at all public access computer stations in the county's 18 branch libraries. Twenty-four-hour dial-up access is available to customers from home or office computers.

Golden Age Club

by Dolores Capotosto

This reporter regrets the error in last week's News Review about the Golden Age Club's January birthday party. This event has been postponed to the meeting scheduled for Wed., January 28. See Solange Hess if you would like to help set up for this or future birthday parties as a system of rotating volunteers will be used. Special thanks to Brenda Kosiski and Jane Fendley for all their past Hospitality Committee work.

Carol Dehn from a "for profit" hospice group addressed the club on Wednesday, January 14. Her interesting and informative presentation prompted many questions and discussions. Since hospice care is for the terminally ill, people tend to wait too long to talk about and prepare for this kind of situation.

On Tuesday, January 27, at 8:30 a.m., the bus will depart for the trip to the Newsmuseum and the Masonic Temple in Virginia from the Library parking lot. Help pass the word that all future bus trips will also leave from this site.

The Tuesday, February 24, trip will be to the memorial for the women who served in the military, and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, which is part of the Treasury Department.

Some Goldenagers are still participating in the swim/exercise class on Monday mornings at 11 a.m., even though the leader, Rose Haber, is unable to be present. She is, however, sorely missed. Any interested club members would be welcomed. There is a minimal cost for residents or nonresidents but Aquatic Center/Fitness Center members are free.

Learn about Trees

How do trees talk to each other? Where can people find a tree older than the pyramids? Learn the answer to these questions and more about trees at a video showing "Tree" on Saturday, January 24 at 10 a.m. at the ranger station in Greenbelt Park. For reservations and information call 301-344-3944.

Free Throw Contest For Youths Held

The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is open to all boys and girls ages 10 to 14, inclusive. Contestants compete within their own gender and age group to sink the most out of a prescribed number of free throw attempts. There are three levels of active competition: council, district, and state. State winners' scores can make them international champions.

The competition will be held Saturday, January 24, from 2 to 4 p.m. in St. Hugh's gym. A special unofficial contest will be held for nine year olds using an eight-foot basket.

Our Neighbors

Greenbelters were saddened to hear of the death of Greenbelt Pioneer Margaret (Peg) Loftus, who died on January 13.

Our sympathy to Lucille White on the death of her mother Kathrine Basinger of Green Ridge House, who died on January 11.

Condolences to Geraldine Tidler and Dorothy Aldrow, whose mother Ina Betts died on January 3 at age 102.

Welcome home to Diane Ronchi and daughter Diane Fuchs, who spent three weeks last October visiting Italy, Switzerland and Holland. Diane Ronchi won the grand prize of a free European trip for two. Mother and daughter toured Italy for two weeks and spent four days with family in Turin. They experienced a storm on the Bay of Naples, a flood in Venice and a train strike in Turin. They visited the town where Dee Ronchi's family is from (and where they still live) and met countless aunts, uncles and cousins. This was an experience neither will forget.

Congratulations to Holly Aleeza Berg, daughter of Carol and Thomas Berg of Julian Court, on being named to the Chancellor's List (All A's) for the fall semester at East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina.

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE WEEK OF JAN. 23

For Richer or Poorer PG13

All seats \$2.00

Fri., Sat. 4:50, 7:20, 9:40

Sun: 4:50, 7:20

Mon: 7:30

(All seats \$1.00)

Tues. Wed. Thurs: 7:30

<http://www.pgttheatres.com/>

Co-op Pays Interest

The Co-op supermarket recently paid the annual interest to its members. Interest on Member Capital for calendar year 1997 in the amount of \$9,002 was paid on January 1 to 331 Greenbelt Consumer Co-op members. \$6,516 was added to members' capital and \$2,486 was paid out in cash.

The Co-op adds 5% interest annually to that part of each members' capital that exceeds \$200. The interest is paid in cash when the members' capital reaches the \$1,000 maximum.

Native American Display Open

Visit Greenbelt Park's Native American display at the Ranger Station on "How the Indians Enriched America." The display has items that were in daily use to provide food, materials and clothing for the Indians.

Card Recycling Is Success

The Recycling Advisory Committee collected 111 pounds of used holiday cards and greeting cards at the Co-op Grocery Store between December 14 - January 9 for reuse. This is the equivalent of 14 grocery sacks of cards! The cards were sent to St. Jude's Ranch for Children in Nevada, which collects all occasion greeting cards, postcards and Christmas ornaments for re-creation.

Anyone wishing to mail additional cards to St. Jude's should mail the cards to St. Jude's Ranch for Children at 100 St. Jude's Street, Boulder City, NV 89005.

Hike in the Park

There will be a two mile hike through Greenbelt Park on Saturday, January 24. Meet the park ranger and fellow hikers at the ranger station at 1 p.m. For reservations call 301-344-3944.

REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL GREENBELT MUNICIPAL BUILDING

JANUARY 26, 1998 - 8:00 P.M.

I. ORGANIZATION

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
4. Consent Agenda - Approval of Staff Recommendations

(The consent agenda consists of those items which have asterisks () placed beside them, subject to such revisions as may be made by the Council prior to approval)*

5. Approval of Agenda and Additions

II. COMMUNICATIONS

6. Presentations
7. Petitions and Requests

(Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless the standing rules are waived by the Council)

8. Minutes of Meetings

9. Administrative Reports

IV. LEGISLATION

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

11. Roosevelt Center Mall Design

12. Site Plan - Golden Triangle

13. Reserved Open Space Zoning Category

14. Approval of Bus Shelter Design & Construction

15. WMATA's Process for Reviewing Development Proposals

16. Greenbelt Lake Water Quality Improvement Project - Designation of Authorized Representative

17. Re-Appointments to Advisory Boards and Committees

V. MEETINGS

NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public and all interested citizens are invited to attend. For information, please call 301-474-3870. If special accommodations are required to make this meeting accessible to any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 or 301-474-2046 (TDD) to request such accommodation before 10:00 am on the day of the meeting.

David E. Moran
City Clerk

OBITUARIES

Henry F. Raduazo

Former Greenbelter Henry Fred Raduazo, 85, of Sharpsburg, MD died on December 30 in Washington County Hospital, Hagerstown.

Mr. Raduazo was born in Concord, N.H. He and his family were residents of Greenbelt in the early 40s and 50s, living first at 1-E Laurel Hill Road and later at 14-H Ridge Road. They moved to Riverdale in the fall of 1957. After his retirement they moved to Sharpsburg.

An employee of the United States government, Mr. Raduazo worked as a patent examiner. He retired in December 1976 after 36 years.

Mr. Raduazo was a member of Greenbelt Community Church where he served as custodian and was on numerous committees. He continued to be active in the church and attended services whenever he was in the area visiting one of his children — five daughters and three sons.

He was a member of Elks Lodge in Hagerstown, National Association of Retired Federal Employees and AARP.

He is survived by his wife, Rosetta West Raduazo, 1671 Taylor's Landing Road, Sharpsburg, MD 21781; daughters Carolyn A. Hogue and Ruth H. Raduazo, Bowie, Dorothy R. Raduazo and Sara L. Hutchings, Riverdale and Susan R. Rambo, Mitchellville; sons, H. Edward Raduazo, Alexandria, VA, Charles F. Raduazo, Annapolis and Fred J. Raduazo, Hyattsville, 17 grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, two sisters and two brothers. A son, Richard Lewis Raduazo, preceded him in death.

Services were held in North Hagerstown; burial was in Concord, N.H.

Memorial donations may be made to Greenbelt Community Church, Hillside and Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

Katherine Basinger

Katherine Z. Basinger, 94, of Green Ridge House, died on Sunday, January 11.

She is survived by daughter Lucille (Cillie) M. White, son Clarence "Ben" Basinger, 11 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren. Her husband Elmer A. "Jack" Basinger and daughter Esther "Jo" Hajdu preceded her in death.

A memorial service was held in the Green Ridge House Community Room on January 15. Interment was private.

Arrangements were made by Borgwardt Funeral Home, Beltsville.

Baha'i Faith

"Well is it with him who imprenteth on his heart the admonitions of the Lord, and steadfastly cleaveth unto them."
-Baha'i Sacred Writings

Greenbelt Baha'i Community
P.O. Box 245
Greenbelt, MD 20770
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Information about the Baha'i Faith is on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.bahai.org/>

Margaret M. Loftus

Margaret Mary Loftus, one of the early Greenbelt pioneers, died January 13. Greenbelt was her home for almost 60 years, from May 12, 1938 to the date of her death. During the Depression, her husband, Joseph Philip Loftus, came to work for the federal government in Washington, D.C. He left his wife and children with his parents in Kansas until he could find housing for them. As soon as a house in Greenbelt was ready, he met the train at Union Station in D.C. and brought Peg, Joe, 7, Marty (6 years on that very day), and Katharine, 4, to their new home.

Peg vividly remembered the early days — the seeded lawn, the wet spring, the mud, and the great happiness of the family all together in their own home. She loved the friendliness of the new town. Before coming to Greenbelt she had obtained a bachelor's degree in the liberal arts from Manhattanville College of the Sacred Heart in New York City in 1929, and had finished a two-year program at the Chicago Normal School of Physical Education. In Greenbelt she learned different skills — how to cook nutritious food on a tight budget, to sew children's clothes, to can the vegetables grown in her Victory garden, and much more. Sharing recipes, housekeeping tips and advice on child care, she received much from — and gave much to — her neighbors and friends. She truly loved being a homemaker, a wife and mother, and a confidant of many close friends who came over to work on the quilting frame or to chat while she ironed.

In 1956, when she was 49 years old and her youngest child started kindergarten, she began teaching physical education at Center and North End Schools. In 1958, she began teaching second and third grades. With the advent of the "New Math," she was chosen to go into classrooms throughout the county as a "resource teacher." She observed others teaching and helped to devise new approaches in the areas where the children were experiencing difficulties. In 1965, she accepted a position as vice principal, first at Riverdale Hills and then later at Calverton Elementary School. To keep her knowledge of educational issues current, she took 42 credit hours in night and summer programs at the University of Maryland - College Park.

In addition to raising eight children and teaching for 15 years, she was active in civic organizations.

She and her husband were founding members of St. Hugh's parish, and continued to be "pillars of the church" until their deaths.

Peg served as president of the Ladies of Charity, the Sodality, the Parent Teacher Association of St. Hugh's Parish, the Greenbelt Woman's Club, and the Gardening Club.

Like many old time Greenbelters, Peg and Joe Loftus thought of moving elsewhere.

They stayed in the same house for more than 55 years for many reasons, including Peg's deep love for her home, for her many friends and former students, and for Greenbelt itself.

In 1987, the 50th anniversary of Greenbelt, when the book "Greenbelt - History of a New Town" was being created,

Peg told the person interviewing her: "We feel we were very blessed to be able to raise our family here."

Margaret Mary Boland was born January 24, 1907 in Le Mars, Iowa, moved to St. Mary's, Kansas in 1910 and to Chicago in 1920. She graduated from college in the spring of 1929 and married Joseph Philip Loftus in the fall. Shortly after the honeymoon, her husband, a stockbroker, witnessed the October 29, 1929 stock market crash. They survived the worst years of

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Wednesdays

6:30 pm Quiet
Communion Service



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Loftus

—photo by Olan Mills

the Depression before coming to Greenbelt. Her husband, Joseph P. Loftus, died April 4, 1997. Her surviving children and their spouses are: Joseph Philip Loftus, Jr. and his wife Barbara of Friendswood, Texas; Martin James Loftus of Baltimore; Katharine Ann and her husband Ronald Boucher of Severna Park; Judith Therese Hunter of Madison, Wisconsin; Joan Marie and her husband Richard Brown of Kensington; Gregory Thomas Lyon-Loftus and his wife Diana of

Waynesboro, Pennsylvania; Carroll Michael Loftus and his wife Claire of Potomac; and John Christopher Loftus and his wife Eileen of Waldorf. She is also survived by 30 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian burial was held at St. Hugh's Catholic Church on January 17. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Louis University, 221 N. Grand Blvd., Rm. 302, St. Louis, MO 63103.

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COUNCIL

(Continued from page 1)

Councilmember Edward Putens was also concerned about tree loss; he suggested a smaller lot in the rear of the building. He also suggested examining the feasibility of constructing the access road from the other side of the building near 4 Court Gardenway. Craze said that this option had been discarded early in the process during meetings with residents and GHI, but had no specifics as to why it was rejected.

Councilmember Alan Turnbull voiced concern about the environmental impact and the cost. He worried about the city being willing to spend "big money" on something that is permanent without thoroughly examining plans for other options to provide spaces. He suggested that the number of cars could be kept down by cautioning potential residents about the parking limits.

Green Ridge House resident Marion Evans responded to Turnbull's support for valet parking or limits on cars. She said that the residents did not want valet parking. Anyone who lives in the city expects to park where they live — "that's all we're asking for," she said. Half of the residents would not go to Candlelight Service, she recalled, because of fears that there would be no place to park when they returned. "We don't want alternatives," she said, "we want a parking lot."

Nonetheless, alternatives is what council voted to consider. On a 4-1 vote, with Turnbull opposed, council authorized spending up to \$5,000 for engineering studies to determine the extent of encroachment on trees and GHI property under the proposed rear lot plan and one with access from the other side. Once the engineering study is complete, the trees affected by the proposed access road will be flagged and a tour by council arranged. Turnbull voted against the motion "for fiscal reasons" but applauded the motion.

Refuse Recommendations

Council accepted a report from the Recycling Advisory Committee recommending that city refuse customers be charged \$15 for pickup of special trash that is not placed at the curb and that extra fees be charged for large amounts of special trash (piles over four feet square) and items requiring special equipment (such as stumps and concrete). Council will consider these recommendations at a future meeting.

Web Site

Council was treated to an overview of the city's web site prepared by city staffers W. Bowman Ferguson and Beverly Palau. The site (www.ci.greenbelt.md.us) provides general city information in the "Get to Know Greenbelt" page and more specific information, such as refuse collection schedules, minutes of council meetings, recreation classes and the like on the "Citizen Connection" page. There is also an option for users to send the city e-mail, although this feature requires users' browsers to be linked to a mail server.

Ferguson gave council a tour

of the site, which includes biographies of the council-members and links to other sites of interest. There is also an interactive map of the city and a search facility that is expected to be operational by the time this story is printed.

School Budget

The Advisory Committee on Education's (ACE) report on the proposed county schools budget was also accepted. Council authorized ACE to support the proposed budget on behalf of the city at the January 21 budget hearing at Eleanor Roosevelt High School. The committee pointed out some budget features that it believed address areas of citizen concern, including proposed funds for salary increases. ACE noted that low salaries is the main reason teachers give for leaving the county schools. The budget also provides funds for the French Immersion program at Greenbelt Middle School and for comprehensive school improvements. At the suggestion of Councilmember Thomas White, the city's proposed partnership with the school board for another school resource officer will also be presented at the hearing.

Dog Park

Council reviewed the operation of the dog park on Hanover Parkway now that the one year trial period has expired. It unanimously approved continuation of the dog park and authorized staff to prepare plans for issuing visitor permits and to work with the Holiday Inn to provide permits to guests in return for an annual fee from the hotel. The city will examine in its capital budget the proposals by the Greenbelt Dog Park Association for another dog park and for improvements to the current park.

Committee Appointments

The following appointments to city boards and committees were approved: Theodore Kowaluk, Advisory Planning Board; Robert Snyder, Recycling Advisory Committee; Carol Malveaux, Park and Recreation Advisory Board; Clara Kuehn, Advisory Planning Board; Jamie Periera, Youth Advisory Committee; Irv Siegel, Arts Advisory Board; and Alla Lake, Advisory Committee on Education. Council also accepted the resignation of Jean Snyder from the Advisory Committee on Education.

STUDY

(Continued from page 1)

The report also covers the surrounding study area — the Hollywood Branchville Community, Beltway Plaza, the Board of Education bus yards and Springhill Lake Apartment community south of the Beltway. In addition, the study area includes the federal property, Metro Storage yard, Capital Office Park and Federal Courthouse north of the Beltway. (See map.)

For example, the report recommended that there be a study of an alternative scenario for the Springhill Lake Apartments property, or a portion of it for redevelopment. Mentioned also was "altering the housing mix, capitalizing on the multi-cultural population and encouraging home ownership and long-term residence."

Visit Frail Seniors

The Prince George's County Department of Family Services is seeking men and women of any age over 21 (especially seniors) to visit with frail seniors in their homes. Commitment of one hour a week for six months is required. Application and interview, orientation and monthly reports are also required. Locations are throughout the County. Call Elaine McGonegal at 301-699-2892 to volunteer in the new Department of Family Services Senior Visitation Program.

Other Actions

Councilmember Alan Turnbull reported that the Anacostia Trailways Heritage proposal has been adopted, which he said may make the city eligible "down the line" for grant funds.

An ordinance authorizing the city to borrow up to \$400,000 for computer hardware and software for the police department was approved. City Manager Michael McLaughlin reported that the city will pay 4.32% under the terms of the agreement with NationsBank, compared to the interest rate in the "mid 5's" that the city earns on its invested fund balances.

Council authorized extra pay for Public Works employees who are "on call" for emergencies, similar to the pay provided to on call police officers. The proposal is expected to cost \$1,200 per year.

New County Zone Could Help Protect Greenbelt

by James Giese

A new, low-density zoning category has been established by the Prince George's County Council. Called Reserve Open Space (R-O-S), the category would limit lot sizes to 20 acres. Before this zone was created, the least dense zoning category, Open Space (O-S) would permit a lot size of five acres.

A county-wide Zoning Map Amendment process to place property in the new zone is now underway. All of the land being considered for inclusion is publicly owned, about 50,000 acres. Privately owned land may also be included, but the written consent of the owner is required.

The new zone is intended to preserve certain areas of the county in an undeveloped state as woodland, agriculture, scenic and environmentally sensitive areas, non-intense recreation, or public uses. For land owned by any government, the new zoning category would have no effect upon how it is used by the government. However, if the land were to be sold to a private owner, the development regulations would then apply.

In the Greenbelt area, the proposed zoning map amendment would rezone to the new zoning category all of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, the Patuxent Wildlife Center, the Goddard Space Flight Center and Greenbelt Park of the National Park Service. The two county school sites on Mandan Road are also proposed for inclusion in the R-O-S zone.

Parcels 1 and 2, considered to be greenbelt for the city, are not proposed for rezoning. This is because the city has not requested that any of its land be included in the zoning map amendment, according to Celia Craze, director of City Planning and Community Development. The city council is scheduled to consider the new zoning category at its regular meeting on January 26. The R-O-S zone designation could be one tool

to use to help preserve greenspace in and adjacent to the city as the city's greenbelt.

Public Hearing Scheduled

A public hearing on the proposed sectional map amendment which would rezone 50,000 acres of public lands into the R-O-S zone is scheduled for a joint public hearing by the Prince George's County Council and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission on Tuesday, February 3, at 1:30 p.m. in the first floor hearing room of the county council at the County Administration Building, 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro. Persons interested in speaking at the hearing may register by calling 301-952-4584 (TTY 301-952-3796). Copies of the proposed R-O-S zoning map amendment are available for public inspection at the Beltsville Branch Library, the MNCPPC Department of Parks and Recreation at 6600 Kenilworth Ave., Riverdale, the Office of the County Clerk on the 2nd floor and the MNCPPC Planning Department Information Center, 4th floor, at the County Administration Building.

Eating Disorders Support Group

Washington Adventist Hospital in Takoma Park sponsors an "Eating Disorders Support Group." This is designed for individuals with eating disorders and their families and friends. The group will meet on Monday, January 26, at 7 p.m. For more information call 1-800-542-5096.

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Best Yet Complete Pancake Mix	89¢ 2 lb.	
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Nestea Iced Tea Mix Makes 20 Qts.	\$2.69 53 oz.	
Best Yet Pancake Syrup All Varieties	89¢ 24 oz.	
SSips Lunch Box Fruit Drinks	69¢ 3 pkgs.	
Furmano's Stewed-or-Diced Tomatoes All Varieties	2/89¢ 14-1/2 oz.	
La Choy Chow Mein Dinners Chicken-Shrimp	2/\$3.99 42 oz.	
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Ocean Spray Ruby Red Grapefruit Juice Original-Tangerine	\$1.79 48 oz.	Sunkist Navel Oranges
Best Yet Peanut Butter	\$1.39 18 oz.	Extra Large Green Peppers
Maier's Italian Wheat Bread	\$1.39 20 oz.	Yellow Onions
DuraFlame Giant Fire Logs	\$1.59 6 lb.	Fresh Express Caesar Supreme Salad Mix
SSips Lunch Box Fruit Drinks	69¢ 3 pkgs.	Marzetti Caramel Apple Dips
Furmano's Stewed-or-Diced Tomatoes All Varieties	2/89¢ 14-1/2 oz.	FRUIT CLUB FOR KIDS FREE KIWI FRUIT See Store For Details
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POLICE BLOTER

Based on Information Released by the Greenbelt Police Department

Greenbelt police arrested two juveniles, ages 14 and 17 for a robbery that had been reported on Jan. 9 at 5:27 p.m. in the 21 court of Ridge. The arrest came about when officers stopped a suspicious vehicle on Ridge Road near Southway an hour later. The driver was found to be in possession of property taken at the burglary, where entrance was gained through a second story window. Tools and jewelry had been taken.

The juvenile driver was arrested and later gave the officers the name of the second juvenile. He also took officers to the location where the remaining property had been taken. The police recovered all of the stolen property. One juvenile was a Greenbelt resident, the other a resident of College Park. The youths were released to family members pending action by the juvenile justice system.

Attempted Murder

Jan. 11, 9:43 p.m., 5900 block of Cherrywood Terrace, officers responded to a residence for a report of shots fired. The victim met officers as they entered the parking area. He told officers that a man he knew had tried to shoot him with a shotgun. The incident occurred after they had argued. The victim gave the officers the name and address where the man could be found. The alleged shooter was found and identified by the victim. The suspect, a 17-year-old male resident, was charged with attempted murder and carrying a handgun. He appeared before a district court commissioner and was held without bond pending trial.

Armed Robbery

Jan. 14, 7:25 a.m., Denny's Restaurant in Greenway Center, officers responded for a report of an armed robbery that had just occurred. The manager of the restaurant told officers that a man entered the lobby, pointed a long gun at the employees, and ordered them into the rear of the store. The robber forced all of the employees except the manager into a store room. He then made the manager open the safe in the office, place currency and coin into a duffel bag, and fled the restaurant on foot. No one was injured in the incident. The robber is described as a black male in his twenties, 5' 8", of medium build and wearing a blue or black jumpsuit and a nylon face mask. He was carrying a brown duffel bag and possibly a sawed-off shotgun.

Jan. 15, 6100 block of Springhill Terrace, officers re-

sponded for a report of an armed robbery that had just occurred. The victim told officers that he had gotten out of his car and was walking toward his residence when he was grabbed from behind. A man said to him, "Don't move," while another man frisked the victim and took his wallet. A third person stood in the area but took no active part in the robbery. All three then fled the area on foot in three separate directions. The victim was not injured in the incident. The robbers are still at large.

Assault

Jan. 14, 6:26 p.m., 7-11 store at 7900 Good Luck Road. A clerk at the store told a police officer that a man had struck him in the head several times. The clerk had accused the suspect of shoplifting, at which time the suspect became angry and hit the victim. The assailant fled on foot prior to the officer's arrival. He is described as a black male in his twenties, 5'11", with a medium build and wearing a red sweatshirt and a light knit cap.

Jan. 13, 5:45 p.m., 1 court of Plateau Place, officers responded to a residence for a report of a domestic assault. The victim told officers that she had an argument with her husband. She became worried as her husband grew more angry, and tried to go to another room. He followed her, pushed her into a wall and punched her several times in the face, she told police. The victim had visible injuries; however, she refused any medical treatment. Her husband was charged with domestic assault and was released to the Department of Corrections.

Jan. 13, 11:12 p.m., 7900 block of Greenbury Drive, officers responded to a residence for a report of a domestic assault in progress. When the officers arrived at the residence, the combatants had already been separated by family members. Both combatants admitted to the physical fight, in which both were battered. They were arrested and charged with assault; both were released after an appearance before a district court commissioner.

Burglaries and Thefts

Jan. 9, 4:38 p.m., 6100 block of Breezewood Court, where entry was gained by cutting through a wall of the apartment which adjoined the laundry room. Jewelry and electronics were stolen.

Jan. 9, 6:26 p.m., 6200 block of Springhill Court, where entry was gained by cutting through a wall from a vacant apartment into the victim's

apartment. A television and a camera were taken.

Jan. 9, 7:41 p.m., 6000 block of Springhill Drive, where entry was gained by breaking out a sliding bedroom window. Electronics were stolen.

Jan. 9, 9:56 p.m. and 11:50 p.m., where two burglaries to two residences were reported in the 100 block of Periwinkle Court. In both cases entry was gained by breaking through a ground-level door and jewelry was stolen.

Jan. 11, 10:27 p.m., 8 court of Laurel Hill Road, where entry was gained through an unlocked door. The victim was reading while lying on the couch in her living room. The back door to the residence opened, and the victim looked up to see a hand inside the door. The victim called for her husband and the would-be robber fled on foot. No description of the suspect is available.

Jan. 12, 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., on Empire Place. In the first incident, entry was gained by forcing the rear sliding glass door open. Shoes and currency were taken. At the second home, entry was forced through a rear basement door. Jewelry, electronics, and a handgun were taken.

Jan. 13, 9:20 p.m., 7300 block of Mandan Road, where entry was forced through the front door. Electronics and currency were taken.

Jan. 12, 8:45 p.m., Giant Food Store at Beltway Plaza, a purse was taken from an unattended shopping cart.

Jan. 13, 3:05 p.m., a theft was reported in the 7500 block of Greenway Center Drive where a bank card and a laptop computer were stolen from an unsecured, unattended office.

Miscellaneous Crimes

Jan. 10, Greenway Shopping Center, two men were arrested for possession of marijuana after an officer observed them parked in a fire lane. The officer was preparing a parking ticket to place on their vehicle; they observed the officer approaching and drove away at high speed. The vehicle was stopped a short distance away.

The driver was unable to provide any registration information and was asked to step from the vehicle. When he did so, the officer smelled a strong odor of burnt marijuana coming from the vehicle. A quantity of marijuana was found under the front seat of the vehicle. Both men were charged with posse-

sion of marijuana. One was a 20-year-old nonresident, while the other was a 22-year-old resident. Both appeared before a district court commissioner and were released on personal recognizance.

Jan. 9, Giant Food Store at Beltway Plaza, a 44-year-old nonresident was arrested after he attempted to pick up a fraudulent prescription. He had phoned in a false prescription and then picked it up and attempted to leave the store without paying for it. He was charged with prescription fraud and impersonation; he appeared before a district court commissioner and was held on bond pending trial.

Jan. 10, 100 block of Greenhill Road, a vandal broke wooden slats from a fence.

Vehicle

Jan. 8, a white 1985 Volkswagen Jetta with Maryland tags EDA 128 was reported stolen from the 6000 block of Greenbelt Road.

Jan. 10, a burgundy 1991 Acura Legend with Maryland tags ENG 718 was reported stolen from the 6200 block of Breezewood Drive.

Vandalisms to, thefts from, and attempted thefts from vehicles were reported in the following areas: 6100 block of Breezewood Drive, 9000 block of Breezewood Terrace, 6000 block of Cherrywood Terrace, 7800 block of Walker Drive, 9100 block of Springhill Lane, and 8400 block of Canning Terrace.

Volunteers Needed At the Navy Museum

The Navy Museum is accepting applications for volunteer docents for its Winter 1998 training program. Training will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., beginning January 27 and continuing through March.

Navy Museum docents conduct tours and lead special programs for elementary and secondary school students and adult groups. An interest and enthusiasm for history and working with the public are recommended. Prospective docents participate in an intensive training program that includes sessions in naval history and museum interpretation techniques.

To learn more about the Navy Museum's Docent Program, call Susan Silverstein Scott at 202-433-4995.

Diabetes Support Group Meets

Diabetes support group meetings are held at Laurel Regional Hospital the last Monday of each month at 7 p.m.

Control diabetes by sharing recipes, stories, and tips for everyday life. A different topic will be presented every month. January's topic is "Keeping New Year's Resolutions." The group is free to family and friends as well. To participate, contact Barbara Warren, RN, diabetes education coordinator, at 301-617-8636.

Workshop Scheduled

A workshop for sharing problems and solutions regarding mental health services will be held on Wednesday, January 28, from 7-9 p.m. in Room 7 of the Bowie City Hall, 2614 Kent Hill Drive in Bowie. This workshop is co-sponsored by AMI of PG, the Mental Health Association and On Our Own of PG County. A staff member at the County Core Service Agency will attend the meeting.

For more information, call Jane Kelley at 301-577-6026

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For information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for (3) burglaries which occurred in the 100 block of Periwinkle Court during the early evening hours of Friday, January 9, 1998. Information will be kept confidential. Contact Detective Jim Keller, Greenbelt Police Department. (301) 507-6530

(This ad and reward made possible through the use of private funds)



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SCHOOLS

(Continued from page 1)

two programs as part of the six-year plan to enable minorities to mix with whites (magnet schools) and to make special efforts to educate those minorities who are deprived of the advantage of racial mixing (Milliken schools). "If children can't mix with others, they will suffer," Thornton told the audience.

"It has only been 30 years since the idea of mixed schools began. You have to have some patience. We have come a long way in that time," Thornton pointed out.

Dr. Thornton is an attorney who represented the NAACP in the school desegregation case during the '80s. He was also a member of the Committee of 100, which, he claims, has done much to end massive forced busing. He is from Alabama and attended the Randolph County Training School "under George Wallace's yoke." He told the group how he had ridden to school with 60 other kids on an old school bus, which, in its better days, had been used to bus white kids.

Social Class Issue

Thornton said that the issue in Prince George's County is no longer race—"It is now social class." Fifty percent of the children in school are in economic poverty and constitute 42% of all children residing in the county. Noting that the school system is 30% black and male, he said that that was something that had to be dealt with. There is a culture that does not support public education, and is antithetical to it. That culture is being brought into the schools. He criticized television, particularly the Fox

network, for promoting that kind of culture. He said that there was a need for greater parental involvement. He deplored the lack of parental supervision by parents who left it to the school system to deal with the control of their children.

"I have no patience with children who are rowdy and disruptive," he said. The school board is under intense pressure to expel huge numbers of students. However, Thornton noted that more money now is being spent on incarcerating children than educating them. Alternative schools for disruptive students are also more expensive than regular schools. The county now has two alternative schools and will soon have four.

Bottom of Ladder

During a question and answer session, Thornton and local school board representative Suzanne Plogman received a variety of criticisms from audience members. Irv Siegel told them that "Education is like politics, and the perception is that the county is at the bottom of the ladder." Thornton disagreed, noting that 4,000 new students choose to enter the school system each year and that "even the worst of schools offer something to those who want to get an education."

He criticized the press for giving the wrong emphasis to education by giving greater importance to student crime than to the fact that SAT scores are going up in a school district that is getting blacker, contrary to what is happening elsewhere. The press also failed to give recognition to the academic awards county students receive.

Certified Teachers

Another audience member told Thornton that he had been

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

to a "full disclosure" meeting and learned that there was a correlation between SAT scores in schools and the number of certified teachers. Further, he said that Prince George's has fewer certified teachers than Baltimore City and that Superintendent of Schools Jerome Clark is going "out-of-his-way" to hire non-certified black teachers, according to the press.

Thornton pointed out that no other governing body is disclosing information as fully as is the Board of Education. He noted that the better teachers in the school system sought out teaching jobs in the better schools, which are on the periphery of the county. That is one reason for the correlation between SAT scores and number of certified teachers.

"Don't buy the hype about uncertified teachers being unqualified," Thornton also said. "Many are better qualified to be teachers." He pointed out that he had been a professor for 22 years, but was not qualified to be state board certified. Dr. Clark, he said, was unable to find enough certified teachers being produced from the Maryland schools.

Thornton supports the effort to make the instructional staff more representative of the people they serve. The school system is bringing in people from out-of-state that do not have the Maryland history curriculum necessary for board certification. Only 30 or so of the teachers that are uncertified are a problem, he said.

Thug Attitude

A woman contended that there was a "thug" attitude among some of the parents of children in this county. "I don't want my children to go to school with their kids," she said, stating that she was a

transplant to Greenbelt, and liked the culture of the city and the county. But when children have to go to school with the children of people who don't care, and when kids are afraid to go to school, people are leaving, she said, referring to Asians, Hispanics and whites.

Thornton responded that Dr. Gerald Boarman, principal of Eleanor Roosevelt High School, has told him that racial diversity has improved his school. Plogman said that she had three children in the school system and that they have had an outstanding education. She particularly took note of Greenbelt Middle School as an outstanding school and called its principal, Dr. Richard Myrick, great. "We have to fight the bias that people have against those of other backgrounds."

BELTSVILLE GARDEN CLUB MEETS

Past Beltsville Garden Club President John Lydon has organized a program of club members Ned Bailey, Bill Koppes, Elizabeth Ogden, and Jim Tock showing slides of and talking about the triumphs and the tragedies of their gardens and gardens they have visited during the past year. The meeting will be held on January 28, the fourth Wednesday of the month.

The Beltsville Garden Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Duckworth School at 11201 Evans Trail in Beltsville. (Evans Trail is the first street to the left, west of Interstate 95, off Powder Mill Road.) Refreshments and door prizes will follow the meeting. Admission is free and the public is invited. For more information, call 301-384-2415.

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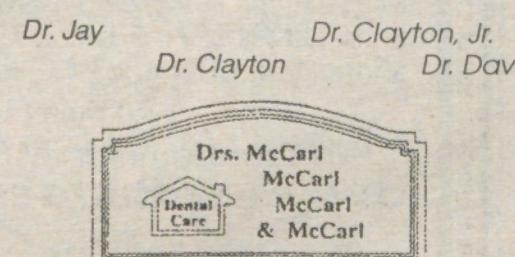
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The Old Curmudgeon

by I. J. Parker

In 1944, with my wife and infant daughter I moved into an apartment in Greenbelt. We were escorted through the procedures by Mrs. Bonham, who handled these matters for the federal government, owner of Greenbelt at that time. Mrs. Bonham was a charming and kind woman, who made our transition stress-free.

Thirteen months later, another daughter joined our family. We were notified by Mrs. Bonham that we must now move into a 2-bedroom home. In those days, you were assigned to housing that reflected your family composition. (If the second child was a boy, we would have been assigned to a 3-bedroom home!) As I recall, the rent did not change; or it was a nominal sum.

Under federal ownership, rules and regulations controlled Greenbelt citizens. It is an historical fact that housing occupants could not hang laundry outside on a line on Saturdays and Sundays, for instance. Another community law forbade the wearing of shorts in the Center. The leader of the local Boy Scout troop, Don Cooper, was arrested for wearing his summer Boy Scout uniform!

Greenbelt had a rather fecund population. Couples were moving in droves from apartments to houses. Soon, a waiting list was created and the competition for houses became fierce. In order to bring some order into this process, Mrs. Bonham issued a notice to Greenbelt inhabitants that said, in effect: "if you contemplate a change in your family status, notify my office immediately."

In a week or so, the notice was cancelled. It seems that residents were calling Mrs. Bonham in the middle of the night to inform her they were contemplating a change in their family status.



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Patuxent Wildlife Programs Offered

The Patuxent Research Refuge, North Tract, is offering a number of programs for children and adults. All programs are free, but advance registration is required and space is limited. Call 410-674-3304.

Children's Programs

Wildlife Show and Tell, Thursday February 5, 10-11 a.m. (ages 4-6) showcases some of the refuge animals, their homes, and what they eat.

Animal Actions, Sunday, February 8, 2-3 p.m. (ages 5-12) teaches how different animals get from place to place.

Say When! Thursday, February 12, 10-11 a.m. (ages 10-16), explores why environments have animal population limits and how humans can affect those limits.

Nature Detectives Hunt, Saturday, February 14, 2-3 p.m. (ages 5-12)-teaches how to become a better observer of the natural world by searching for animal clues.

Duck, Duck, Goose, Sunday, February 15, 2-3 p.m. (ages 5-12), is an exploration of the special adaptations of ducks and geese.

Adult Programs

Birdwalk, Sunday, February 1, 8-10 a.m. (ages 12 and older), is an opportunity to discover winter birds of the refuge on this guided walk; participants should bring binoculars and field guides.

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Tax Refund Info On Internet

State Comptroller Louis L. Goldstein joined with IRS Delaware-Maryland District Director Paul Harrington in December to announce a first in the nation: the posting of federal and state undelivered refund information on the comptroller's website. The website contains information on about 1,708 undelivered federal refund checks, ranging from \$1.00 to \$14,942 and averaging \$558, and 1,768 undelivered Maryland refunds, with amounts ranging from \$1.00 to \$6,262 and averaging \$231.

"Since the initial announcement December 10, more than 2,000 folks have checked the lists, but no claims have been filed, to our knowledge," Goldstein said.

"Now is a good time to check these lists," Harrington said. "A few extra minutes could bring cash to start out the new year."

Refund checks are often returned as undeliverable because taxpayers moved, changed their names and did not notify the IRS or the State Comptroller's Office, or the address written on the tax return may not have been legible.

The comptroller's website address is: <http://www.comp.state.md.us>

J. Henson**PHOTOGRAPHICS**

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City Plans Retreat For Goal-Setting

The Greenbelt City Council and senior staff will be holding a one-day goal-setting retreat. It will be held on Saturday, January 31, at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center's Visitor and Conference Center. The City Council, with the assistance of staff, will work on setting goals for the next two years.

Representatives from the Institute for Governmental Service of the University of Maryland will assist the city by providing facilitators for the meetings. The preliminary agenda for the discussion will center on the strengths and weaknesses of the community and the city government, and will seek to identify issues, pinpoint opportunities, and set goals. The outcome of the session will help determine the course of the city government over the next couple of years.

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Dr. Boarman Receives Post Award

by Mary Moien

Dr. Gerald Boarman, Chief Educational Administrator of the Eleanor Roosevelt High School Cluster of Schools, has been awarded The Washington Post Distinguished Educational Leadership Award for Prince George's County Public Schools. The award was presented to Dr. Boarman by Donald Graham, publisher of The Post, at a ceremony on December 1. Katharine Graham, chairman of the Executive Committee, The Washington Post, coordinated the award program. In addition to receiving a Waterford crystal school bell, Dr. Boarman will be part of a group of educators participating in a trip to Puerto Rico next August.

Eleanor Roosevelt High School staff members nominated Dr. Boarman for the award, submitting a packet of more than 40 pages of documentation. Dr. Boarman commented: "I was totally overwhelmed with joy and a great sense of pride that so many people would take the time out of their busy schedule to write so many kind letters of support. I truly believe that if I were not the principal of Eleanor Roosevelt High School with so many fine students, teachers, and parents, I would not have received this award. Therefore this award is representative of all the endeavors of these individuals." Dr. Boarman stressed that the award is a total school and community award and that he is "just the representative who is receiving it for all the accomplishments that our students had in the last few years."

Carol Gray, ERHS guidance counselor, and one of the nominators summed up the feelings: "Leader, innovator, consensus builder, and humanitarian are the words that most readily come to mind" regarding Dr. Boarman.

Dr. Boarman is not a novice when it comes to awards. In 1995, Dr. Boarman was awarded the Milliken Family Foundation National Educator Award for his outstanding career. Among other awards are: Maryland's Principal of the Year (1995); Outstanding School Administrator from the Maryland Music Education Association (1993); Outstanding Educator Award from the Washington, D.C. P.O.W.E.R.S. Organization (1992); and Outstanding



Dr. Gerald Boarman

Principal Award from the Guidance Counselors of Prince George's County (1990). He is also distinguished by having had ERHS selected as a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence.

Prevent Blindness: Get Eye Exam

The week of January 25 is Glaucoma Awareness Week, and the Prevention of Blindness Society, along with the National Eye Institute is highlighting the importance of eye care and safeguarding vision.

Glaucoma is a leading cause of irreversible vision loss in the United States and affects about three million Americans. It is estimated that up to one half of this number may be unaware they have the disease. High risk groups include persons over the age of 60, African-Americans over the age of 40, and people who have a family history of glaucoma. Such individuals should receive a dilated eye exam at least every two years, according to Arnold Simonsen of the Prevention of Blindness Society. For more information and a free pamphlet on glaucoma, call the Prevention of Blindness Society at 202-234-1010.

Marine Corps Marathon Tests Runners' Courage

by Dennis Jelalian

Three Greenbelters ran in this year's Marine Corps marathon, held on October 26. An annual event, which has been sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps for the last 22 years, it is known as the "People's Race" because it is open to the public. The course, which took place in Washington and Virginia, began at the Iwo Jima Memorial and followed a course along the Mall and past the Capitol and other public buildings.

Sharon Bradley-Papp

Greenbelt landscape architect Sharon Bradley-Papp ran her first full marathon and the story is a profile in courage. In 1994 she had been diagnosed with cancer, and a year later underwent surgery. As part of her recovery program, she began to exercise, and decided to train for the Marine Corps Marathon as a personal commitment to her own recovery. Her brother Joe had run the 26.2 mile course ten years earlier and to support him she had run the difficult last seven miles with him.

For six months, as she recuperated, she found the time for a rigorous training schedule, running six to seven miles a day, five days a week, and up to 10 miles on the weekends. This time her brother Joe was trainer and support person. He sent her frequent e-mail messages, advising her on the best ways to train and the proper diet for a marathon runner.

On the day of the race, Joe ran the whole way with his sister, coaching and encouraging her. Bradley-Papp finished the race in about four and a half hours.

Asked how she felt at the end of the race, she replied, "Awful" — but the pain and the time it took her to finish were not important. Her aim was simply to finish the race, to prove to herself and others that she could take charge of her own life, beat

the disease, and make a comeback. If she could do it, so could other cancer survivors.

For Bradley-Papp, it was a triumph of the spirit. A mother with three children, she owns her own architectural landscaping business, a firm that presently holds the design contract for renovation of the Roosevelt Center.

Kelly Lauer

Kelly Lauer, who grew up in Greenbelt on Plateau Place where her parents still live, was another Greenbelt resident who ran in the Marine Corps Marathon. Lauer is a small woman, under five feet, and under a hundred pounds, but she is full of energy and made a big effort for the Marine Corps Marathon.

She regularly exercises with a fitness/aerobics group, and through the group was invited to join "T.N.T." This stands for Team and Training, an organization of the Leukemia Society of America, which raises money for leukemia research by sponsoring runners in the Marine Corps Marathon. Lauer trained for five months and also approached individuals and corporations to sponsor her in the race. She managed to raise \$1,600. Overall, T.N.T. raised over one million dollars for leukemia research. Lauer personally sponsored Heather Hahn, a 14-year-old-girl with the disease, who watched the race with other leukemia patients.

The race became more eventful for Lauer when her running partner hurt her knee. Lauer went for help and then returned to her injured partner. Both managed to finish the race.

Kevin Brown

Another Greenbelt participant in the Marine Corps Marathon was Kevin Brown, 46, of Plateau Place. A long-distance runner since 1982, Brown ran this year in his fifth Marine Corps Marathon. He turned in a time of about three hours. Brown's wife,

CITYLINK

(Continued from page 1)

@ Greenbelt contains information about the city's history, an overview of the form of government, and brief biographies of elected officials. An interactive map of Greenbelt is only one click away, as is a community directory of people, businesses, and organizations.

Greenbelt Citylink will be updated regularly, and new features will be added. Greenbelt Citylink can be accessed at <http://www.ci.greenbelt.md.us>. The webmaster is Beverly Palau, who can also be reached at 301-474-8000.

Music by Mozart

A Mozart concert will be held on Saturday, January 31 at 8 p.m. in the Tawes Theatre. Call 301-405-1150 for tickets and information.

Pat, has also run in this marathon, although she did not participate this year. Brown works at BARC and enjoys building things with his hands, using old-fashioned tools.

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